



Bureau of Land Management

UTAH
NEWS

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Vegetation Enhancement to Continue Near Panguitch, Utah

Cedar City, Utah— Beginning Oct. 7, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Color Country District will implement the fourth phase of a cooperative project with the Utah Partners for Conservation and Development (UPCD)— a statewide consortium of local sportsmen groups, landowners, and other state and federal partners. This phase of the project enhances approximately 1500 acres of vegetation on public land east of Highway 89 and west of Highway 143 near Panguitch, Utah.

This project improves watershed conditions; enrich crucial mule deer winter range, elk, pronghorn and sage grouse habitat; in addition to reducing hazardous fuels for enhanced community wildfire protection. Vegetation is removed using “bullhogs”, also known as mechanical chipper shredders, to meet national sage grouse habitat restoration guidelines. Removal is environmentally friendly, and creates more sagebrush, grass, and forbs.

In addition to mechanical thinning to remove encroaching pinyon and juniper trees, aerial seeding with a specific seed mix designed to promote favorable cool season grasses, forbs, and shrubs will be used. The project is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2014.

For more information and/or to add your email address to our local information contact list, please call Nick Howell at (435) 865-3026 or Paul Briggs at (435) 865-3002.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

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